

money is given that it will be invested in this project. Well, it may be or it may not be. It depends on the negotiations, which are certainly uncertain at this point, as we all know. But let's hypothesize for the moment that the negotiations do not go through. What happens to the \$5 million? Well, what happens to the \$5 million is that this Legislature doesn't get it back for other uses. The \$5 million is going to stay in the cash funds of the Railroad Revitalization Council and they will have the power to apply that money to other projects up until 2006 or 2007. So, you might consider for a moment, look how important this particular project has been to us in terms of trying to decide whether to give money or not. You know, we have had a lot of debate on this, and almost all of it has focused on the terms in viability of a particular project. Would you want this \$5 million invested in another project upon which you have heard no discussion? That is possible if you give these monies to the council. That is very possible. For myself, if we are going to give this much money away for a project, I would rather that they had to come back to us and ask for the money again for that particular project. So, what I am saying is the way this whole financial thing is structured, we are leaving ourselves open for the use of that money for something other than what we all expect the use to be and maybe that is something we don't...shouldn't be the first worry on our minds but it is something that is surely relevant and something to think about. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Before we proceed with the debate, I'd like to call the senators attention to the area under the south balcony. Special guests today of the Legislature and of Senator Horgan are former State Senator Richard Fellman and his wife Beth. Would you please stand and be recognized. Welcome back to the Legislature. Thank you. Speaking order now is Senator Bernard-Stevens, Chambers, Ashford, Cudaback, Schmit, Pirsch, Dierks and Crosby. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, and I have not spoken on the issue, nor am I going to plow old ground. I am going to make just a couple of points because we are on a different topic now on Final Reading, reconsideration. And I do this more to kind of remind the body and, possibly, I think this is the first time this year, in fact, I know it is the first time this year we have been in this situation for new members. But sometimes things can make a little difference, and this policy here and